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IRON. *adj.*
1. Made of iron.
In iron walls they deem'd me not secure. *Shakefp. H. VI.*
Get me an iron crow, and bring it straight
Unto my cell. *Shakefp. Romeo and Juliet.*
Some are of an iron red, shining, and polite; others not
polite, but as if powdered with iron dust. *Woodward.*
Poll-cats and weefels do a great deal of injury to warrens:
the way of taking them is in hutches, and iron traps. *Mortin.*
2. Resembling iron in colour.
A piece of stone of a dark iron grey colour, but in some
parts of a ferruginous colour. *Woodward on Fossils.*
Some of them are of an iron red, and very bright. *Woodw.*
3. Harsh; severe; rigid; miserable; calamitous: as, the iron
age, for an age of hardship and wickedness. These ideas may
be found more or less in all the following examples.
Three vigorous virgins, waiting still behind,
Assist the throne of th' iron scepter'd king. *Crowshaw.*
O sad virgin, that thy power
Might bid the foul of Orpheus sing
Such notes as warbled to the string,
Drew iron tears from Pluto's cheek,
And made hell grant what love did seek. *Milton.*
In all my iron years of wars and dangers,
From blooming youth down to decaying age,
My fame ne'er knew a stain of dishonour. *Rowe.*
Jove crush the nations with an iron rod,
And ev'ry monarch be the scourge of God. *Pope's Odyssey.*
4. Indissoluble; unbroken.
Rash Elpenor, in an evil hour,
Dry'd an immeasurable bowl, and thought
To exhale his furest by irriguous sleep,
Imprudent: him death's iron sleep oppress. *Phillips.*
5. Hard; impenetrable.
I will converse with iron witted fools,
And unrespective boys: none are for me,
That look into me with confid'rate eyes. *Shakefp. R. III.*
TO IRON. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To smooth with an iron.
2. To shackle with irons.
IRONICAL. *adj.* [from *ironique*, Fr. from *irony*.] Expressing one thing
and meaning another; speaking by contraries.
In this fallacy may be comprised all *ironical* mistakes, or
expressions receiving inverted significations. *Brown.*
I take all your *ironical* civilities in a literal sense, and shall
expect them to be literally performed. *Swift.*
IRONICALLY. *adv.* [from *ironical*.] By the use of irony.
Socrates was pronounced by the oracle of Delphos to be the
wisest man of Greece, which he would turn from himself
ironically, saying, there could be nothing in him to verify the
oracle, except this, that he was not wise, and knew it; and
others were not wise, and knew it not. *Bacon.*
The dean, *ironically* grave, *Swift.*
Still shunn'd the fool, and last'd the knave. *Swift.*
IRONMONGER. *n. s.* [from *iron* and *monger*.] A dealer in iron.
IRONWOOD. *n. s.* A kind of wood extremely hard, and so pon-
derous as to sink in water. It grows in America. *Rob. Cruso.*
IRONWORT. *n. s.* [from *iron* and *wort*.] It is a plant with a lobed
flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip or beard is
divided into three parts: out of the flower-cup rises the pointal,
attended, as it were, by four embryos; which afterward turn
to so many oblong seeds, shut up in an hulk, which before was
the flower-cup: to these marks must be added, the flowers
growing in whorls at the wings of the leaves, which are cut
like a crest, and differ from the other leaves of the plant. *Mill.*
IRONY. *adj.* [from *iron*.] Made of iron; partaking of iron.
The force they are under is real, and that of their fate but
imaginary: it is not strange if the *irony* chains have more
solidity than the contemplative. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
Some springs of Hungary, highly impregnated with vitriol-
lick salts, dissolve the body of one metal, suppose iron, put
into the spring; and deposite, in lieu of the *irony* particles car-
ried off, coppery particles. *Woodward on Fossils.*
IRONY. *n. s.* [from *ironie*, Fr. *ironia*.] A mode of speech in
which the meaning is contrary to the words: as, *Bolingbroke*
was a holy man.
So grave a body, upon so solemn an occasion, should not
deal in *irony*, or explain their meaning by contraries. *Swift.*
IRRADIANCE. *n. s.* [from *irradiance*, French; *irradiatio*, Latin.]
IRRADIANCE. *n. s.* [from *irradiance*, French; *irradiatio*, Latin.]
1. Emission of rays or beams of light upon any object.
The principal affection is its translucency, the *irradiance*
and sparkling, found in many gems, is not discoverable in
this. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
2. Beams of light emitted.
Love not the heavenly spirits? Or do they mix
Irradiance! virtual, or immediate touch? *Milt. Par. Leg.*
TO IRRADIATE. *v. a.* [from *irradiatio*, Latin.]
1. To adorn with light emitted upon it; to brighten.
When he thus perceives that these opacous bodies do not
hinder the eye from judging light to have an equal plenary
diffusion through the whole place it *irradiates*, he can have no

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difficulty to allow air, that is diaphanous, to be every where
mingled with light. *Digby on Bodies.*
It is not a converting but a crowning grace; such an one
as *irradiates* and puts a circle of glory about the head of him
upon whom it descends. *South.*
2. To enlighten intellectually; to illumine; to illuminate.
Celestial light
Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers
Irradiate; there plant eyes: all mist from thence
Purge and disperse. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*
3. To animate by heat or light.
Ethereal or solar heat must digest, influence, *irradiate*, and
put those more simple parts of matter into motion. *Hale.*
4. To decorate with shining ornaments.
No weeping orphan saw his father's store
Our shrines *irradiate*, or imblaze the floor. *Pope.*
IRRADIATION. *n. s.* [from *irradiatio*, Fr. from *irradiare*.]
1. The act of emitting beams of light.
If light were a body it should drive away the air, which is
likewise a body, wherever it is admitted; for within the whole
sphere of the *irradiation* of it, there is no point but light is
found. *Digby on Bodies.*
The generation of bodies is not effected by *irradiation*, or
answerably unto the propagation of light; but herein a trans-
mission is made materially from some parts, and ideally from
every one. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
2. Illumination; intellectual light.
The means of derivation and immediate union of these in-
telligible objects to the understanding, are sometimes divine
and supernatural, as by immediate *irradiation* or revelation.
Hale's Origin of Mankind.
IRRATIONAL. *adj.* [from *irrationalis*, Latin.]
1. Void of reason; void of understanding; without the dis-
cursive faculty.
Thus began
Outrage from lifeless things; but discord first,
Daughter of sin, among th' *irrational*
Death introduc'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
He hath eat'n, and lives,
And knows, and speaks, and reasons and discerns;
Irrational till then. *Milt. Paradise Lost, b. ix.*
2. Absurd; contrary to reason.
Since the brain is only a part transmittent, and that humours
oft are precipitated to the lungs before they arrive to the brain,
no kind of benefit can be effected from so *irrational* an appli-
cation. *Harvey on Conjunction.*
I shall quietly submit, not wishing so *irrational* a thing as
that every body should be deceived. *Pope.*
IRRATIONALITY. *n. s.* [from *irrational*.] Want of reason.
IRRATIONALLY. *adv.* [from *irrational*.] Without reason;
absurdly.
IRRECLAIMABLE. *adj.* [in and *reclaimable*.] Not to be re-
claimed; not to be changed to the better.
As for obstinate, *irreclaimable*, professed enemies, we must
expect their calamities will continue. *Addison's Freeholder.*
IRRECONCILABLE. *adj.* [from *irreconcilable*, Fr. in and *reconcilable*.]
1. Not to be reconciled; not to be appeased.
Wage eternal war,
Irreconcilable to our grand foe. *Milton.*
A weak unequal faction may animate a government; but
when it grows equal in strength, and *irreconcilable* by animos-
ity, it cannot end without some crisis. *Temple.*
There are no factions, though *irreconcilable* to one another,
that are not united in their affection to you. *Dryden.*
2. Not to be made consistent. It has with or to.
As she was strictly virtuous herself, so she always put the
best construction upon the words and actions of her neigh-
bours, except where they were *irreconcilable* to the rules of
honesty and decency. *Arbutnot. Hist. of John Bull.*
Since the sense I oppose is attended with such gross *irrecon-
cilable* absurdities, I presume I need not offer any thing farther
in support of the one, or in disproof of the other. *Rogers.*
This essential power of gravitation or attraction is *irrecon-
cilable* with the atheist's own doctrine of a chaos. *Beattie.*
All that can be transmitted from the stars is wholly un-
countable, and *irreconcilable* to any system of science. *Beattie.*
IRRECONCILABLENESS. *n. s.* [from *irreconcilable*.] Impossi-
bility to be reconciled.
IRRECONCILABLY. *adv.* [from *irreconcilable*.] In a manner
not admitting reconciliation.
IRRECONCILED. *adj.* [in and *reconciled*.] Not atoned.
A servant dies in many *irreconciled* iniquities. *Shakefp. H. V.*
IRRECOVERABLE. *adj.* [in and *recoverable*.]
1. Not to be regained; not to be refitted or repaired.
Time, in a natural sense, is *irrecoverable*: the moment just
fled by us, it is impossible to recall. *Rogers.*
2. Not to be remedied.
The *irrecoverable* loss of so many livings of principal
value.
It concerns every man, that would not trifle away his soul,
and fool himself into *irrecoverable* misery, with the greatest
seriousness to enquire. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
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IRRECOVERABLY. *adv.* [from *irrecoverable*.] Beyond reco-
very; past repair.
O dark, dark, dark amid' the blaze of noon;
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse,
Without all hope of day. *Milton's Agonistes.*
The credit of the Exchequer is *irrecoverably* lost by the last
breach with the bankers. *Temple.*
IRREDUCIBLE. *adj.* [in and *reducible*.] Not to be brought or
reduced.
These observations seem to argue the corpuscles of air to
be *irreducible* into water. *Boyle.*
IRREFRAGABILITY. *n. s.* [from *irrefragable*.] Strength of
argument not to be refuted.
IRREFRAGABLE. *adj.* [from *irrefragabilis*, school Latin; *irre-
fragable*, Fr.] Not to be confuted; superior to argumental
opposition.
Strong and *irrefragable* the evidences of Christianity must
be: they who refuted them would resist every thing. *Atterbury.*
The danger of introducing unexperienced men was urged
as an *irrefragable* reason for working by flow degrees. *Swift.*
IRREFRAGABLY. *adv.* [from *irrefragable*.] With force above
confutation.
That they denied a future state is evident from St. Paul's
reasonings, which are of no force but only on that supposition,
as Origen largely and *irrefragably* proves. *Atterbury.*
IRREFUTABLE. *adj.* [from *irrefutabilis*, Latin.] Not to be over-
thrown by argument.
IRREGULAR. *adj.* [from *irregularis*, Latin.]
1. Deviating from rule, custom, or nature.
The am'rous youth
Obtain'd of Venus his desire,
How'er *irregular* his fire. *Prior.*
2. Immethodical; not confined to any certain rule or order.
This motion seems excentric and *irregular*, yet not well
to be refuted or quieted. *King Charles.*
Regular
Then most, when most *irregular* they seem. *Milton.*
The numbers of pindarics are wild and *irregular*, and
sometimes seem harsh and uncouth. *Cowley.*
3. Not being according to the laws of virtue. A soft word for
virtuous.
IRREGULARITY. *n. s.* [from *irregularitas*, Fr. from *irregular*.]
1. Deviation from rule.
2. Neglect of method and order.
This *irregularity* of its unruly and tumultuous motion might
afford a beginning unto the common opinion. *Brown.*
As these vast heaps of mountains are thrown together with
so much *irregularity* and confusion, they form a great variety
of hollow bottoms. *Addison on Italy.*
3. Inordinate practice.
Religion is somewhat less in danger of corruption, while
the sinner acknowledges the obligations of his duty, and is
ashamed of his *irregularities*. *Rogers's Sermons.*
IRREGULARLY. *adv.* [from *irregular*.] Without observation
of rule or method.
Phaeton,
By the wild courses of his fancy drawn,
From East to West *irregularly* hurl'd,
First set on fire himself, and then the world. *Dryden jun.*
Your's is a foul *irregularly* great,
Which wanting temper, yet abounds with heat. *Dryden.*
It may give some light to those whose concern for their lit-
tle ones makes them so *irregularly* bold as to consult their own
reason, in the education of their children, rather than to rely
upon old custom. *Locke.*
TO IRREGULATE. *v. a.* [from *in* and *regula*, Latin.] To
make irregular; to disorder.
Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds,
shelves, and every interjacency *irregularly*. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*
IRRELATIVE. *adj.* [in and *relativus*, Latin.] Having no re-
ference to any thing; single; unconnected.
Separated by the voice of God, things in their species came
out in uncommunicated varieties, and *irrelative* femininities.
Brown's Vulgar Errors.
IRRELIGION. *n. s.* [from *irreligio*, Fr. in and *religio*.] Contempt
of religion; impiety.
The weapons with which I combat *irreligion* are already
consecrated. *Dryden.*
We behold every instance of prophaneness and *irreligion*,
not only committed, but defended and gloried in. *Rogers.*
IRRELIGIOUS. *adj.* [from *irreligiōsus*, Fr. in and *religiōsus*.]
1. Contemning religion; impious.
The ill of an *irreligious* Moor. *Shakefp. Tit. Andron.*
Whoever sees these *irreligious* men,
With burthen of a sickness weak and faint,
But hears them talking of religion then,
And vowing of their souls to ev'ry saint,
Shame and reproach is generally the portion of the impious
and *irreligious*. *South's Sermons.*
2. Contrary to religion.
Wherein that Scripture standeth not the church of God in
any stead, or serveth nothing at all to direct, but may be let

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pafs as needfess to be consulted with, we judge it profane, im-
pious, and *irreligious* to think. *H. cher.*
Might not the queen's domesticks be obliged to avoid swear-
ing, and *irreligious* profane discourse? *Swift.*
IRRELIGIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *irreligiōsus*.] With impiety;
with irreligion.
IRREMEABLE. *adj.* [from *irremediabilis*, Latin.] Admitting no re-
turn.
The keeper charm'd, the chief without delay
Pafs'd on, and took th' *irremediable* way. *Dryden.*
IRREMEADIABLE. *adj.* [from *irremediabile*, Fr. in and *remediabile*.]
Admitting no cure; not to be remedied.
They content themselves with that which was the *irremediable*
error of former times, or the necessity of the present hath cast
upon them. *Hooker.*
A steady hand, in governing of military affairs, is more
requisite than in times of peace, because an error committed
in war may prove *irremediable*. *Bacon.*
Whatever he consults you about, unless it lead to some fatal
and *irremediable* mischief, be sure you advise only as a
friend. *Locke.*
IRREMEADIABLY. *adv.* [from *irremediabile*.] Without cure.
It happens to us *irremediably* and inevitably, that we may
perceive these accidents are not the fruits of our labour, but
gifts of God. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*
IRREMISSIBLE. *adj.* [in and *remitto*, Lat. *irremissibilis*, French.]
Not to be pardoned.
IRREMISSIBLENESS. *n. s.* [from *irremissibilis*.] The quality of
being not to be pardoned.
Thence arises the aggravation and *irremissibility* of the
sin. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*
IRREMOVABLE. *adj.* [in and *remove*.] Not to be moved;
not to be changed.
He's *irremovable*, *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*
Resolv'd for flight. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*
IRRENOUWED. *adj.* [in and *renouen*.] Void of honour.
For all he did was to deceive good knights,
And draw them from pursuit of praise and fame
To sluggish sloth and sensual delights,
And end their days with *irrenowned* shame. *Fairy Queen.*
IRREPARABLE. *adj.* [from *irreparabilis*, Lat. *irreparable*, Fr.] Not
to be recovered; not to be repaired.
Irreparable is the loss, and patience says it is not past her
cure. *Shakefp. Tempest.*
Toil'd with loss *irreparable*. *Milton.*
It is an *irreparable* injustice we are guilty of, when we are
prejudiced by the looks of those whom we do not know. *Addis.*
The story of Deucalion and Pyrrha teaches, that piety and
innocence cannot mis of the divine protection, and that the
only loss *irreparable* is that of our probity. *Garth.*
IRREPARABLY. *adv.* [from *irreparable*.] Without recovery;
without amends.
Such adventures befall artists *irreparably*. *Boyle.*
The cutting off that time industry and gifts, whereby she would
be nourished, were *irreparably* injurious to her. *Dec. of Piety.*
IRREPLEVABLE. *adj.* [in and *replevy*.] Not to be redeemed.
A law term.
IRREPREHENSIBLE. *adj.* [from *irreprehensibilis*, Fr. *irreprehensibilis*,
Latin.] Exempt from blame.
IRREPREHENSIBLY. *adv.* [from *irreprehensibilis*.] Without blame.
IRREPRESENTABLE. *adj.* [in and *represent*.] Not to be figured
by any representation.
God's *irrepresentable* nature doth hold against making images
of God. *Stillfleet.*
IRREPROACHABLE. *adj.* [in and *reproachable*.] Free from
blame; free from reproach.
He was a serious sincere Christian, of an innocent, *irre-
proachable*, nay, exemplary life. *Atterbury.*
Their prayer may be, that they may raise up and breed as
irreproachable a young family as their parents have done. *Pope.*
IRREPROACHABLY. *adv.* [from *irreproachable*.] Without
blame; without reproach.
IRREPROVEABLE. *adj.* [in and *reproveable*.] Not to be blamed;
irreproachable.
IRRESISTIBILITY. *n. s.* [from *irresistibilis*.] Power or force
above opposition.
The doctrine of *irresistibility* of grace, in working whatfo-
ever it works, if it be acknowledged, there is nothing to be
affixt to gratitude. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*
IRRESISTIBLE. *adj.* [from *irresistibilis*, Fr. in and *resistibilis*.] Supe-
rior to opposition.
Fear doth grow from an apprehension of the Deity, inducd
with *irresistible* power to hurt; and is of all affections, anger
excepted, the unaptest to admit conference with reason. *Hook.*
In mighty quadrate join'd
Of union *irresistible*. *Milton.*
Fear of God is inward acknowledgment of an holy just
Being, armed with almighty and *irresistible* power. *Tillotson.*
There can be no difference in the subjects, where the appli-
cation is almighty and *irresistible*, as in creation. *Rogers.*
Won by the charm
Of goodness *irresistible*, the blith'd content. *Thomson.*
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IRRESISTIBLY.